

those praying for her to succeed in her next adventure. As she will experience shortly, this wind will likely be a gale force event, so beloved is Patricia Miljanich in San Mateo County.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMPLETION OF THE GATEWAY GEYSER

**HON. MIKE BOST**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 26, 2015*

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th Anniversary of the completion of the Gateway Geyser. It is a proud and distinct achievement that the tallest fountain in the United States, and the second tallest in the world, is located in the Metro East region of Southern Illinois.

The vision and drive of Malcom Martin made it possible to undertake this incredible project. In addition to its famous geyser, the park's facilities offer visitors impressive and memorable views of the Arch and City of St. Louis. It is very much a part of the overall Jefferson National Expansion Memorial.

As I toured the park recently, I developed an understanding for the desires that the Metro East Park and Recreation District and the Gateway Center have to make this amazing park a part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. Doing so would be a fitting tribute to Malcom Martin and all of the City of East St. Louis officials who have helped make this anniversary possible.

HONORING DEPUTY CHIEF DAVID E. DOWNING

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 26, 2015*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary career of Deputy Chief David Downing of the Oakland Police Department.

Deputy Chief Downing began his career in law enforcement with the Oakland Police Department (OPD) in 1988. During his career, he has served in a wide variety of assignments, including Police Academy Director, Internal Affairs Commander, and Special Operations Commander. In 2012, he was promoted to Deputy Chief of Police and is currently the commander of the Bureau of Field Operations for West Oakland. Deputy Chief Downing also served concurrently with OPD's Special Weapons and Tactics team from 1992 to 2011 as an operator, team leader, and tactical commander.

In addition to serving the citizens of Oakland, Deputy Chief Downing served the United States of America as an Air Force Reservist from 1984 to 2014. He retired as a Chief Master Sergeant with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations as the Senior Enlisted Leader for the 4th Field Investigative Region, at Randolph Air Force Base in Texas. In 2001, he was mobilized into active duty and served in Operation Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom until his return to civilian law enforcement in 2003.

Deputy Chief Downing received his Bachelor's Degree in Administration of Justice from San Jose State University in 1989, and went on to graduate from Indiana State University in 2008 with a Master's Degree in Criminology. He is also the graduate of several senior management programs, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy, the Police Executive Research Forum's Senior Management Institute for Police, and the California Peace Officer Standards and Training Executive Development Course.

Throughout his career, Deputy Chief Downing has maintained a special interest in and relationship with Oakland's Chinatown. He serves the Oakland and Chinatown communities as a member of the Board of Directors of the Oakland Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, the President of the Oakland Police Foundation, President of the Oakland Police Managers Association, Chairman of the Asian Advisory Committee on Crime, Chairman of the Asian Youth Services Committee (AYSC), Chairperson of the AYSC Scholarship Dinner, and has raised funds and manpower to send low-income youth to various camps and seminars across the nation.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, Deputy Chief David E. Downing, I salute him. I thank him for a lifetime of service and congratulate him on his achievements. I wish him and his loved ones the very best as he enjoys his well-deserved retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR HISPANICS

**HON. JUAN VARGAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 26, 2015*

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the 25th anniversary of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. The initiative, established in 1990, has sought to address the educational disparities faced by the Hispanic community. This year, the White House launched the Bright Spots catalog to commemorate the initiative's success. This newly created resource honors organizations around the country significantly furthering the educational attainment of the Hispanic community.

While there are 230 programs included in the catalog, I would like to honor three organizations in California's 51 District: Barrio Logan College Institute, Reality Changers, and the San Ysidro Vanguard Education Foundation.

Barrio Logan College Institute, established in 2007, is a nonprofit working to provide disadvantaged students with the opportunity to attend college. The organization begins working with students in third grade and continues providing support and guidance throughout high school. Since its creation, 100 percent of its graduates have gone on to college.

Reality Changers was founded in 2001 in an attempt to better prepare disadvantaged Hispanic youth for college. By establishing various support systems and college readiness programs, the organization has seen 97 percent of its students become first generation college students.

San Ysidro Vanguard Education Foundation was created in 2012 to address the racial and ethnic disparities within the San Ysidro School District. The organization focuses on early learning, college access, Latino teacher recruitment, and STEM education.

Again, I would like to extend my admiration and sincere appreciation for all the work that these groups continue to do for our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF RONN OWENS

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 26, 2015*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a broadcast legend who is celebrating his 40th anniversary at KGO Newstalk 810 today and who will be inducted into the National Radio Hall of Fame in November. Ronn Owens is a household name in the Bay Area and beyond, a master in his field, and a remarkably talented, opinionated and intellectually curious man whom I am proud to call a good friend. I have spent many hours on the air with Ronn and he is always tough, thoughtful, informed and unpredictable.

He has honed his skills in thousands of interviews with guests in the hot seat, including President Barack Obama, Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI, actor Steve Martin, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, 49er quarterback Joe Montana, singer Tony Bennett and a long list of Secretaries of State, CIA Directors, mayors and community leaders.

His longevity and style on the air have earned him many prestigious awards: The Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame, the National Association of Broadcaster's Marconi Award twice, Talkers Magazine's Top 25 Greatest Radio Talk Show Host of All Time, and now the National Radio Hall of Fame where he will be joining the likes of Edward R. Murrow, Bob Hope and Terry Gross.

Ronn was born Ronald Lowenstein on October 17, 1945 in New York City. He graduated from Temple University in Philadelphia in 1968 and launched his broadcast career hosting radio programs in Atlanta, Miami, Cleveland and Philadelphia. In 1975 he moved to San Francisco and began his four decade run at KGO radio. Today, he remains the only weekday talk radio host on the station and has a regular audience of half a million listeners.

While Ronn is very vocal about his opinions—he also wrote a book titled *Voice of Reason: Why the Left and Right Are Wrong*—he is the first to admit when he is wrong. Facts matter and he is dedicated to seeking the truth. Last year, Ronn revealed a challenging personal truth to his listeners. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease over a decade ago. He decided to go public after the tragic death of Robin Williams who was diagnosed with Parkinson's. Ronn hasn't let his symptoms get in the way of doing his job.

Recently he joked before surgery, "If I come out and say, 'you know, that Sarah Palin would make a heckuva president,' we'll know something went wrong." He meets the challenges of his disease with great courage and humor.

Ronn started his radio career when analog reel-to-reel tape recorders, cartridges and